

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the pending claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A compression journal comprising:

at least two semi-circularly shaped segments;

a cylindrical shaft having said semi-circularly shaped segments positioned around said shaft;

at least one air gap positioned circumferentially between ~~the two~~ of the semi-circularly shaped segments; and

means, positioned around the outside of said semi-circular segments, for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said cylindrical shaft.
2. (Currently amended) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said semi-circular segments comprise a silver impregnated graphite material.
3. (Currently amended) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said cylindrical shaft comprises a coin silver sleeve around an outer portion of said shaft for contacting said semi-circularly shaped segments.
4. (Original) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said journal comprises a shield for securing said journal within a stator assembly and blocking RF signal leakage.
5. (Currently amended) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said means for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said cylindrical shaft comprises a rubber O-ring.

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6. (Currently amended) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said means for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said cylindrical shaft comprises a conductive O-ring.
7. (Original) The compression journal as recited in claim 1 wherein said compression journal is positioned within a rotary joint.
8. (Currently amended) A rotary joint comprising:
a rotor assembly having a housing and a shaft extending outward from a center portion thereof;
a stator assembly having a cylindrical opening for receiving said shaft of said rotor assembly, the housing of said rotor assembly being secured within a housing of said stator assembly;
a cavity in said stator assembly for receiving at least two semi-circularly shaped segments positioned around said shaft of said rotor assembly;
at least one air gap positioned circumferentially between the two semi-circularly shaped segments; and
means positioned around the outside of said semi-circular segments for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said shaft of said rotor assembly.
9. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said rotary joint comprises a shield, having an opening for said shaft to pass therethrough, positioned against an end of said semi-circularly shaped segments for securing said semi-circular segments within said cavity of said stator.

10. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 9 wherein said shield provides a ground connection between said semi-circularly shaped segments and said stator housing.

11. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said semi-circular segments comprise a silver impregnated graphite material.

12. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said cylindrical shaft comprises a coin silver outer sleeve for contacting said semi-circular segments.

13. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said means for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said shaft comprises a rubber O-ring.

14. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said means for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said shaft comprises a conductive O-ring.

15. (Currently amended) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said cavity of said stator assembly comprises a channel having a predetermined width within said cavity for receiving said means for maintaining electrical contact between said semi-circular segments and said shaft.

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16. (Original) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said housing of said rotor assembly comprises a bearing ring positioned around an outer end portion of said housing to facilitate rotation of said rotor assembly when positioned within said stator assembly.

17. (Original) The rotary joint as recited in claim 8 wherein said rotor assembly comprises a first capacitive feed ring through which said shaft extends and said stator assembly comprises a second capacitive feed ring through which said shaft passes, said first capacitive feed ring being disposed in close relationship to said second capacitive feed ring when said rotor assembly is positioned within said stator assembly.

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